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13 March 1957

MEMORANDUM FOR: The Director

SUBJECT: Contacts with Senate and House Appropriations Committees

This memorandum is for information only.

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1. Messrs. Saunders, [] and I called on Francis Hewitt of the Staff of the Senate Appropriations Committee today, and Mr. Saunders presented to him our summary budget figures for FY/57. There were no questions raised of any great substance. Mr. Saunders explained the new system of budgeting for NSC/OCE. Mr. Hewitt was interested in construction items in the budget, and these were explained to him briefly by Mr. [] In response to a question, we informed Mr. Hewitt that it was unlikely that we would submit a supplemental appropriation request for our new building this year, although we pointed out that present available funds were far short of the amount required to house all of our people in one building.

2. We also visited Mr. Orescan of the Staff of the House Appropriations Committee, for the purpose of trying to get some clue as to when CIA might be called up for its budget hearings. Orescan indicated that the Committee was in the midst of Defense hearings at the moment, and that they would probably last at least another ten days. Mr. Saunders pointed out that the Director might be out of the city between the 30th of March and roughly the 10th of April. Orescan stated that although he could not make any guarantees, he thought we would probably be called during the last week in March, and if not, that our hearings could probably be postponed until after the 10th.

3. Although he did not go into specifics, Orescan did make one or two interesting observations on the subject of intelligence estimates and Defense budgets. He stated that Pentagon witnesses were giving the Defense Subcommittee more detailed intelligence briefings than the DCI had ever given to the CIA Subcommittee, and also indicated that there was a great deal of concern within the Defense Subcommittee about the quality of national estimates. There was not any point in pursuing this

matter further with Crescan, but this points up a problem which we should consider in deciding on a schedule of further briefings on aircraft, missiles, etc. At some point, I believe it would be advisable for the Director to have a serious talk with [redacted] on this whole problem.

25X1A

/s/ Norman S. Paul

Norman S. Paul
Legislative Counsel

cc: DDCI

IG/LC:NSPaul:fm

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